

REMARKS

Claims 1-27 were presented for examination and were pending in this application. In the latest Office Action, claims 1-27 were subject to a restriction requirement under 35 U.S.C. § 121. With this amendment, claim 18 is amended, and new claim 28 is added.

In making the restriction requirement, the examiner identified two distinct inventions:

- Invention I (including claims 1-17), drawn to an adaptive optics system; and
- Invention II (including claims 18-27), drawn to a method of manufacturing a deformable mirror.

In response to this restriction requirement, Applicants elect to prosecute in this application Invention I, which includes claims 1-17 as well as newly added claim 28.

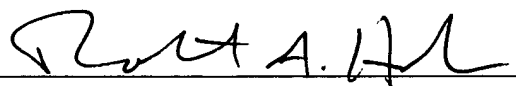
Applicants note that new claim 28 is a linking claim for Inventions I and II. *See* MPEP 809.03 (explaining that “claim to the necessary process of making a product link[s] proper process and product claims”). As such, claim 28 must be examined in this application pursuant to MPEP 809. Because the restriction requirement is now predicated on the nonallowance of linking claim 28, Applicants are entitled under MPEP 809.04 to retain nonelected claims 18-27 in this application, unexamined pending the allowance of any generic or linking claim.

If the examiner believes for any reason direct contact would help advance the prosecution of this case to allowance, the examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,

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AND J. CHRISTOPHER SHELTON

Dated: November 16, 2004

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